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- MORE 'DUNLOPS'
- UNEMPLOYMENT HITS HOME

NEW CANADA

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DUNLOP WORKERS CAN WIN

Within the panelled walls of the "multi-national" corporation where executives transact the real business of the world, the decision to close down one of their branch plant factories is just part of shuffling the corporate cards so as to maximize the profits.

That's why with one hand, Dunlop can accept an Ontario Development grant to open a plant near London, Ontario, and with the other they can close down Toronto operations.

Within the majestic walls of government where smaller men make and break laws to make life comfortable for the companies, a shutdown is just part of playing the game.

But, in the factory, 600 workers lose their jobs.

Factories open and shut down just about every day in Canada. Usually it's just another story in the newspaper. But, when unemployment figures climb to 6.8 per cent, when tens of thousands are laid off in the Toronto area alone, and when a group of workers has the nerve to challenge business and government for the right to work -- then the imperialist order begins to show a few cracks.

The fight of the Dunlop workers began on March 6 when hundreds of skilled men, most holding 15 years seniority in highly specialized jobs, were told that their working lives were coming to a dead end. A few quit to find other jobs. The rest closed ranks and decided to stay and fight.

The Dunlop plant has been organized as local 132 of the International Rubber Workers Union of America for 30 years. Since the shutdown was announced, the union has done nothing to help the local. Norman Allison, the Canadian Director of the Union is appointed from Akron, Ohio at a salary of $12,000 a year plus expenses. When asked what he was doing about Dunlop, he said, "I've got 90 locals. I can't possibly look after every one."

David Archer, president of the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) said, "You can't really do anything under our laws." The OFL and the Toronto District Labour Council, under mounting pressure from local militants and the public, finally kicked in $800 to help publish a leaflet. But, International union reps like Allison and Archer use legalisms as an excuse for doing nothing. They forget that the Canadian trade union movement was built despite anti-worker laws.

The inactivity of the internationals should come as no surprise. The Dunlop case disproves their claim that we need "international" unions to fight international corporations.

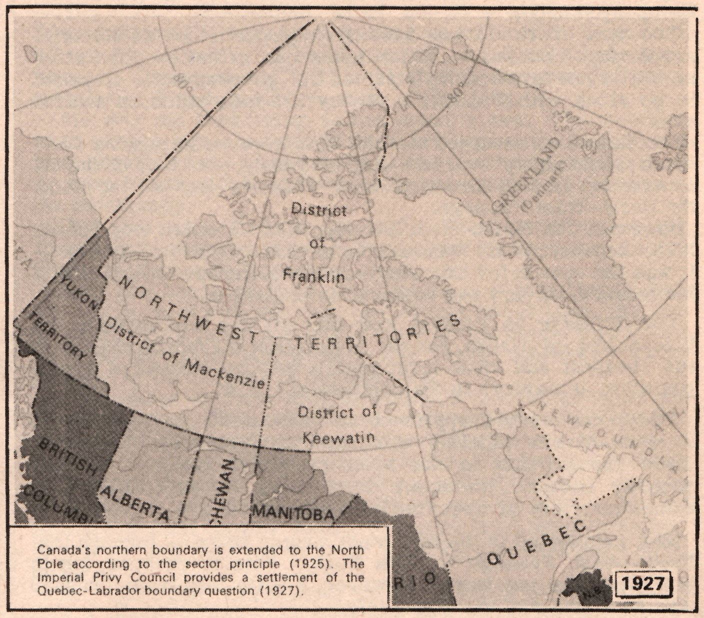
Just three months ago, local 132 staged a wildcat in support of 80 workers striking Dunlop's Centralia plant for their first contract. The "International" not only lent no support but even encouraged the company to starve the 1,200 men back to work. The strike was lost -- thanks to "International" co-operation.

The fact is that these AFL-CIO-CLC business unions are completely integrated into the American imperialist system. Their role has not been to oppose capitalism but to promote American capitalism around the world under the slogan "Free Enterprise and Free Labour". It's no wonder that the Dunlop workers scratch their heads and ask, which is worse, the union or the company.

In the political arena, the workers are wondering if the NDP can be of any help. Stephen Lewis has been making brave speeches in the legislature. But why is he not willing to use his organization machine to back the workers in militant action?

James Renwick, as MPP for the east end riding in which the plant is located, and because of his reputation as a humanitarian lawyer has considerable influence with the local leadership. But, though he first raised the issue in the house with more fiery words, his influence has been mostly conservative -- urging legal action against the company that will do nothing to keep Dunlop open but will quell rank and file action. But, how can these politicians act otherwise when their basis of support is the leadership of the Internationals?

(continued p. 8)



Canada's northern boundary is extended to the North Pole according to the sector principle (1925). The Imperial Privy Council provides a settlement of the Quebec-Labrador boundary question (1927).

Arctic belongs to Canada! Claimed 45 years ago. . .

This is an exact copy of a map in the official Atlas of Canada published by the Federal Government in Ottawa –– Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. It is one of a series of historical maps showing the developement of Canada's frontiers.

First published for the "Centennial" in 1967., the entire series is available in one sheet titled, "The Historical Evolution of Canada," from The Queen's Printer for $1.

As shown above, the Canadian government in 1925 claimed all the waters surrounding our Arctic Islands right up to the North Pole. This claim was based on the Sector Principle, which is a principle for claiming territory applicable only in the Polar regions. The lines are drawn from base points at the extremities of the land mass along the lines of longitude meeting at the Pole to produce a pie–shaped sector.

NOW TRUDEAU'S GIVING IT AWAY

Now, Trudeau, in claiming a 12–mile boundry, is giving up most of the 1925 claim while pretending to "stand up to the Yankees." ... See editorial p.2

Pollution Danger Grave in Arctic . . . see p.8

Editorial

It was terribly thoughtful of Pierre Trudeau to "forget" our Arctic claim of 45 years ago! It would be very difficult for the U.S. to dispute this claim because it has a large claim of its own in Antarctica based on, of all things, the Sector Principle.

All of Trudeau's talk about pollution is intended to make the Canadian people forget that the main question is sovereignty. After all, Trudeau agreed to send Canadian ice-breakers to help the tanker Manhattan twice through the North-West Passage -- even though it broke almost all of his "anti-pollution regulations". The tanker is owned by the U.S. Humble Oil Company (ESSO).

The New York Times has already published an editorial supporting Trudeau -- which leads one to believe that after an initial pro forma complaint, the U.S. government is disposed to go along with Trudeau's phoney 100-mile pollution control area.

Few Canadians realized that the U.S. does not recognize Canadian sovereignty over the Bay of Fundy, the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, Hecate Strait or even Hudson's Bay -- let alone the North-West Passage.

However, the North-West Passage was Canadian long before 1925, because of its intimate connection with our history -- it was the search for this short-cut from Europe to Asia which led to the discovery and exploration of Canada.

The Passage is crucial now that oil has been found in the U.S. colony of Alaska, for the imperialist oil monopolies want the cheapest and most strategically secure method of transportation to markets in the continental U.S.A.

The first method approved and now under construction is a trans-Alaska pipeline connected to Seattle by oil tanker. Even though this is the most expensive method, it is top priority because its route is entirely through either U.S. owned territory or open (unclaimable) ocean.

Now coming up is the next most secure route -- through the North-West Passage to New York. This is cheaper, but is now Canadian territory. However, a little help from Trudeau will go a long way to solving this.

Cheapest of all is the third major possibility -- an overland pipeline down the MacKenzie River Valley. However, this lies almost entirely through what is unquestionably Canadian territory -- and Washington has more fear of the Canadian people than it lets on.

Even though Canada is the U.S.'s "best friend", Washington is worried about the possibility that U.S. ships might be barred from the North-West Passage if there were a revolution in Canada.

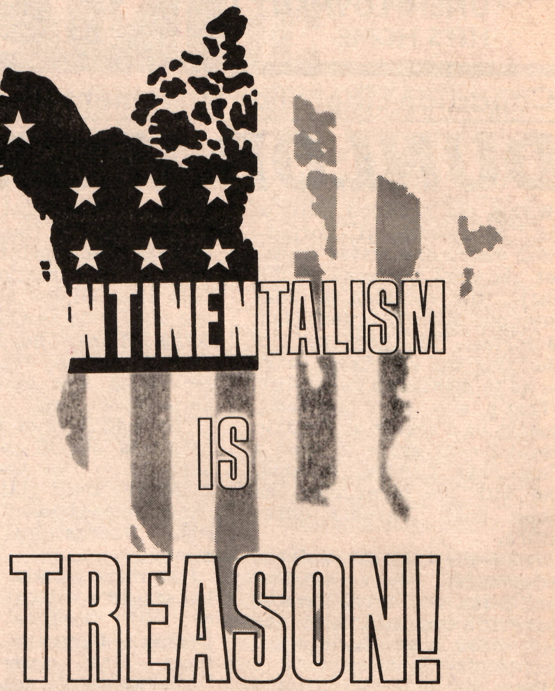
Or, some patriotic government might put a TOLL on their oil tankers -- and use the money to pay for the navigation aids and ice-breakers provided -- and for the development of the Canadian Arctic. It is normal practice the world over to charge foreign ships using internal waterways.

Further, international law would require the U.S. to obtain advance Canadian permission to send its warships through the Passage -- else, it is considered an act of war.

The U.S. imperialists are well aware of the threat to their "national security" -- and their profits -- posed by Canada's 1925 claim. They plan to overcome this -- and rob us of our heritage -- with aid of Canada's Quisling.

Fortunately for Trudeau's Liberal Party, the two "opposition" parties are just as eager to please the imperialists -- they too have "forgotten" our 1925 claim.

But let Trudeau beware. The Canadian people are awakening. He will be repaid for his crimes: Continentalism is Treason!



This graphic is available as a three-colour sticker, from CLM

Letters

Spring brings us what has become an annual event in Toronto. Thousands of school children and grandmothers, sports writers and professors take part in a marathon walk to raise money for less fortunate people in "developing" nations.

Miles for Millions has become "establishment" and, like other establishment charities (notably United Appeal) is coming under close scrutiny. Who manages it? For whom is it managed? In whose interest?

Doubtless there is further work to be done. Here we will content ourselves with some comments on two of the "Participating Organizations ", those organizations which shape its policies and which are its beneficiaries.

The most notorious is the World University Service. Shown in 1967 to be one of a number of front organizations for CIA operatives in the "free" world student establishment, its Treasure Van was quietly dropped from the University of Toronto Campus (although the U of T is still a member) and it has gone into a state of eclipse.

In his new book, Harold Cardinal refers to the Indian-Eskimo Association as a "white citizen's group based in Toronto which was set up to give support to the Indian people and symbolize the concern of the non-Indian Canadian, and which gradually began to assume the role of spokesman for Indians rather than a supporting role. Members of that association became more of a hindrance than a help to the development of strong Indian organizations, a goal to which they were committed, because they were acquiring funds sorely needed by the Indian groups ..."

Recently, it has gained further distrust from Indian organizations as the government uses it to pressure Indians into accepting the white paper.

Why does Miles for Millions choose to give money to a white support organization rather than to mass-supported Indian organizations like the National Indian Brotherhood?

C. Walker Toronto

NEW CANADA is published monthly by the Canadian Liberation Movement, Box 41, Station 'E', Toronto 4, Ontario. The CLM sees as its task the struggle for an independent socialist Canada: to unite all those classes, strata, national groups and patriotic personalities who can be united to fight U.S. imperialism.

All signed articles in this publication represent the opinions of their authors and are not necessarily those of the Canadian Liberation Movement. We welcome comments, criticism and communications from our readers. All letters to the editor must be signed and full address given: this information will be withheld at the request of the reader.

STUDENTS take-over

This spring, the final term of the academic year usually reserved for exams and essays, has witnessed a rash of sit-ins at Ontario campuses which shows the growing militancy of Canadian students.

SUDBURY -- Students and faculty united in their opposition to the Board of Governors and President Stanley Mullins of Laurentian University. On April 9, after a week and a half occupation of a university building which involved about 600 students, and after the teaching staff shut down all academic activities including exams, the Board was forced to dismiss President Mullins.

As President, Mullins had allied himself completely with the Board of Governors which is controlled by "local" businessmen. Mullins acted without any consultation of students or staff and promoted Laurentian as an American-type "multiversity". This means that instead of supporting staff-student demands for improved library and classroom facilities, and the much-needed student center, he advocated the establishment of law and medical schools at Laurentian.

Student activist Paul Reid feels that the victory was a partial one at best. "We got the symbol of the system but were never able to expose the system itself. The members of the Board of Governors are just puppets for Inco and Falconbridge which really run the University and set priorities. And this issue was clouded by a lot of liberal talk about 'inefficient administraton'."

Reid says however that many students were radicalized in the process and that next year many will be involved in trying to reform the structure of the University. Two search committees with token student representation have been established to choose a temporary and permanent President to replace Mullins.

TORONTO -- Three Hundred students occupied Simcoe Hall, the administration building at University of Toronto, for 22 hours this month and won their demand that the University pay for the renovation of a day care centre and thereby ensure its existence until 1972.

The day-care centre was started by the Women's Liberation Movement in order to provide cheap day-care for students and employees of the university. Parents using these facilities pay $30 a week for each child under two and participate fully in planning and running the centre.

Sandra Foster, parent and volunteer, says the day care centre is necessary to free women from traditional patterns of child-rearing and hopes to involve an even greater community in this process. "However, it was only a partial victory," she says. "The university agreed to meet the immediate demand for renovations but refused to see its responsibility for providing day care for women at the University."

TORONTO -- Three hundred students at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute were defeated after a 20-hour sit-in which they attempted to re-instate five fired faculty members. The students were demanding that the teachers be immediately re-instated and that a permanent staff-student-faculty committee be established to handle all hirings and firings.

Defeat came when Ryerson President Donald Mordell massed 2,000 engineering and business administration students to support his threat of police intervention, "law and order" tactics, to quell any further sit-ins.

HAMILTON -- Fifty students sitting-in at the President's office at MacMaster University won demands for improved food services and an end to speed-ups for cafeteria workers, this month. The sit-in was supported by the Student Council and by students living in residence at the University.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK DEPARTMENT

CNTU leader Michel Chartrand, reacting to OTTAWA's policies toward Quebec and especially to Montreal's truck drivers who distribute mail in the city, called Trudeau a "liar" and his cabinet "a bunch of whores" at a meeting between the cabinet and leaders of the CNTU, March 24.

"You are raping the population. I don't lie. But you are a Christ of a liar. You make people slaves because you are a slave of the U.S."

Mel Watkins:

The only alternative is Socialist Canada

We live, today, in Canada, in a dependent capitalist economy. We can choose, with J.J. Greene, Stanley Randall and a host of others in high places, to stay that way. Or we can follow the Walter Gordon approach -- which seems to be gaining ground in Ottawa, presumably to head off the new nationalism of the left -- and try to build an independent capitalist Canada, with Canadian corporations playing a more prominent role in the Canadian economy and themselves going multi-national. Or we can follow the lead given by socialists, within the NDP (Waffle Group) and without, and begin the struggle for an independent socialist Canada.

We know what the first option -- that of continentalism, or North American economic integration -- means, for that is where we are at today. It means living in an economy which is a branch plant of the United States.

But our fate is much worse than that. To be a northward extension of the United States is to be a part of the awful military machine which is America today and to be complicit in American imperialism in Viet Nam and eleswhere. It is to be increasingly reduced to a resource base for the American empire, a process already far advanced which the Nixon Administration would like to push to its logical conclusion and which the Trudeau Government cannot be trusted to resist.

Canadian history has been lived within a succession of empires, and we have always been willing to serve imperial masters and settle for home rule rather than true independence. So it is that our most probable future is to continue to move down the continentalist path, with every certainty that with economic dependency goes political disintegration and that at some point perhaps not far distant, Canada will come asunder and U.S. domination will be total.

With nationalism on the upsurge in Canada, Mr. Trudeau appears to intend to move to implement at long last some of the proposals that were so long espoused by Walter Gordon. But we should not expect much. In eight years under Pearson and Trudeau, three foreign take-overs have been stopped with much ballyhoo and fanfare, and well over 1000 have quietly taken place. Today, there are more than 7000 foreign-owned firms in Canada.

And, of course, even if policy were to be serious, we would be left with a capitalist economy. Our complaints against that system daily mount as its contradictions become ever more evident -- the mindless pursuit of economic growth without respect to social cost, the destruction of our natural and human environments, of neighbourhoods and family farms.

Independence is possible only by a massive commitment of the Canadian people to use the power of the state, while socialism is impossible until we free ourselves from American capitalism. Socialism means the redistribution of ordinary men and women, but we connot redistribute power without simultaneously gathering it back from the corporate boardrooms in the United States where it now resides.

The multi-national corporation now plans for single industries across many countries and does so in the most undemocratic fashion imagineable. Socialism would mean planning for many industries across one country and doing so in the most democratic manner conceivable. It means using Canadian public ownership as an alternative to foreign private ownership; it means using Crown corporations to create new jobs, and more creative jobs than a branch plant economy can offer.

If we want to have a truly democratic Canada -- indeed, any Canada at all -- then the socialist alternative is what we must choose. And if we want an independent socialist Canada we must be prepared to join a struggle that, though it will be long and difficult, has the promise at the end, of being worth the effort.

***Mel Watkins is a professor of economics at University of Toronto, and a leader of the Waffle Manifesto group of the NDP. Each month, this space will contain an article by a Canadian patriotic personality.**

The Government

In December of last year Trudeau announed that the way he chose to correct the "problem of inflation" was to take it out of the pockets of Canadian workers.

"There are a lot of people in this country who are bargaining tha t oh well, the government can't hang tough for too long because it will get frightened when it sees unemployment up to 6%. But if people think we are going to lose our nerve now, they should think again. We're not."

Trudeau has stuck to his guns. In the six months since he declared open season on employment, over 300,000 have been put on the unemployment lists.

When Trudeau took office in April 1968 the consumer price index stood at 120.2. Last month it soared to 128.9.

Inflation has consumed the Canadian dollar at an unprecedented rate of almost 4.5 per cent a year. For example, a worker who got a wage increase from $108.68 a week in 1968 to $116.17 in 1969 seems to have gotten a raise of $7.49. But in terms of real wages, his raise (in deflated dollars) amounts to $1.97.

Hardest hit are three industrial sectors -- manufacturing, construction, and trades. In B.C. and Ontario unemployment among construction workers increased 45% over the same month of last year. The number of unemployed tradesmen in Quebec increased by 35%, and by 40% in the Prairies. Of those who were laid off a huge 14.4% of them are in the 19 and under age category.

Under the guise of fighting the common cold of the Canadian economy Trudeau has made a prescription of tight money, high interest rates and higher taxes guaranteed to destroy both marginal and vulnerable sectors of the economy as well as developed industry. In reality his actions constitute a national attack on the Canadian economy and on the working people of Canada.

In the past decade American monopolies joined by some British and European giants and, more recently, by Japanese firms have carved up Canada's domestic market to suit themselves. Plant closings are the clearest evidence that foreign based firms have a free hand to shift their operations as it suits their imperialist and national needs. Their management rights are protected by both the Trudeau and the Robarts Governments. The Canadian people are told to bite their tongues and keep their hands in their pockets.

Textile trouble

Massive layoffs among textile workers fit a pattern designed to put Canadian workers out of jobs and protect the huge profits of American, British and Japanese capitalists.

With a developed textile industry, Canada suffers from the highest import penetration of any country in the world.

Figures show that in 1969 foreign firms in Canada captured 48% of cotton textiles, 47% of synthetic textiles, and 38% of the woolen products market. In cottons alone American firms supplied 72 million sq. yards for the Canadian market in 1968, 116 million sq. yards came from the "lowcost" Asian countries.

Washington, however, protects its market and the jobs of American workers. In 1968 U.S. imports amounted to .86 sq. yards of cotton on a per capita basis, while the Canadian figure was an astounding 2.61 sq. yards.

The gravity of the present situation can be demonstrated in yet another way. In 1959 Japan exported 3 million sq. yards of man-made textiles. In 1968 that figure had skyrocketed to 42 million sq. yards. In fact, Japan replaced the U.S. as Canada's chief supplier of synthetic textiles.

The companies -- so long as they can lay off workers and cut costs -- are prepared to live with the depressed conditions of the Canadian textile market. But, the Federal Government has actually been promoting the penetration of the market by refusing to exercise special priveleges accorded it by the GATT Treaty which gives Ottawa the right to protect the jobs of Canadian textile workers.

In December 1969 BVD shirt Company of Montreal declared bankruptcy. Over 400 workers were to be unemployed when the plant shut down. Only last minute intervention by the Quebec Government provided the company with "capital financing" to keep BVD alive.

in this and many other instances the American based textile unions are not prepared to fight this policy of planned unemployment. Because of the approaching election the Quebec Government stepped in to keep the factory open. Had BVD gone under the chief beneficiaries would have been the American textile monopolies and foreign owned factories located in low wage countries that control this 'Canadian' industry.

UNEMPLOYME

The "experts " say that unemployment is seasonal, high in winter, tapering off in the spring and on the rise again in late autumn. But, the figures tell a different story. There is no end in sight. March 1970 showed another increase in unemployment: it now claims 6.7 per cent of the labour force. And, 300,000 of the 600,000 unemployed have been out of work from one or six months or over. A national survey shows that in

AUTO

Because of "lagging car sales" at GM in Oshawa, 250 men are being laid off with no chance of recall on Chevelle and Pontiac lines. Six Canadian plants were affected by one-week shutdowns in late February and a two-week shutdown at Christmas.

At GM in Ste Therese, cutbacks are being made "to reflect market requirements". Temporary shutdowns and short work weeks involve 11,500 men in Oshawa and Ste Therese.

If the Ford Motor Co. had been forced to spend the $75 million gift it got last year from Ottawa on keeping men at work, there would be no unemployment in the Canadian auto industry today. At that time, the government 'forgot' to collect $75 million in customs duties owed by Ford because of its breach of the US-Canada Auto Pact.

The pact sets Canadian auto production at three-quarters of the Canadian automobile demand so that we're a huge importer of autos and parts. If Canadian auto plants produced just enough cars to fill our needs, there would be no unemployment in our auto plants and, indeed, thousands of extra hands would be needed.

GOODYEAR

There have been four plant shutdowns and 885 workers laid off in March 1970 due to "general business slowdown". Between March 29 and April 2, 225 men were laid off in Valleyfield, Quebec. In roughly the same period, layoffs at Ste Hyacinth were 225 men; at Collingwood, 120; at Medicine Hat, 140. Goodyear of Canada is of course wholly owned by Goodyear of the U.S. the world's largest rubber monopoly. In the plants, the United Rubber Workers of America are doing as much as they are for the Dunlop workers -- nothing.

MASSEY-FERGUSON

Two years ago Massey Ferguson employed 2,200 in Toronto. Now there are just 1,400. On February 23 all 950 workers at two Brantford plants and all 1,400 Toronto workers were laid off for two weeks due to "poor market conditions". Their Supplementary Unemployment Benefit Fund had been depleted as of November '69 because of short work weeks and continuous layoffs over the past two years.

Massey Ferguson is Canadian owned but its major market is in the US and all its marketing facilities (including the Canadian) have been moved south. Further it key management people are American and they have often threatened to close their Canadian plants and move production to the U.S. The United Auto Workers pretend not to notice that the most skilled jobs have already been moved to the U.S. And they never complain that the 'poor market conditions' are due to U.S. imperialist destruction of the Canadian wheat market.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

On April 3, the General Electric Co. announced the closing of its radio and T.V. tube plant, 189 Dufferin Street, Toronto. Before transister production was discontinued in 1966, the plant employed 717. Now, the remaining 240 workers are to go. Layoffs begin June 19 with 40; June 26, 80 more; July 3, 20; July 10, 20 and the rest within six months. Of the first 160, 124 are women.

The Canadian tube market will henceforth be supplied by the G.E. plant in Owensboro, Kentucky, U.S.A. U.S. imperialist-owned G.E. has promised to expand light bulb production in the Dufferin plant but refuses to commit itself to a date and to rehiring those laid off. It will merely "do its best" to absorb them into its seven other Metro plants.

However, recent "indefinite" layoffs at G.E. include 100 at at the Dufferin Street Light Bulb Plant; 160 at the Rexdale Plant; 50 in the Carboloy Division, 1199 Lansdowne; and 80 at the Ward Street Plant. There have also been layoffs at the Davenport and Scarboro Plants.

NT HITS HOME

every part of Canada unemployment is rapidly becoming the number one problem. In the Maritimes one in 10 are out of work. In Quebec more than 8 per cent. In British Columbia, 7.3 per cent are unemployed; in the Praries 4.6 per cent. Ontario with 136,000 unemployed, is feeling the pinch last.

But, as the recession hits key industries, there will be more and more 'Dunlops' with snowballing effects on unemployment as the examples below show.

FRIGIDAIRE

Since January, 1970 there have been 150 layoffs in the Scarborough plant. In previous years, there had been no layoffs. The plant was entirely shut down the first week of March and the men got 95 per cent of their pay from Supplementary Benefits Fund. Now in some departments there are short work weeks and just two shifts instead of the usual three. At the Oshawa plant employment is down 10-20 per cent.

The company says layoffs are due to low sales and a reduced auto market (Frigidaire makes car parts, radios and brakes too). Frigidaire is a subsidiary of the largest U.S. imperialist monopoly, General Motors.

DEHAVILLAND

Over the past seven months there has been a drop in employment from 2,200 men to less than 1,100 at the Toronto plant. DeHaviland is the last remaining company that builds entire airplanes in Canada. It is owned by the British Hawker-Siddley group.

CONSTRUCTION

The government's policy of deflation is taking its toll in the building industry. Housing starts in Metro Toronto in February were down 90 per cent from a year ago.

Of the 8,000 organized construction labourers in Toronto, 1,600 are unemployed. Six to seven hundred union carpenters are looking for work in the city as well as 700 of 7,000 union electricians and plumbers in Ontario. Thirty per cent of residential concrete workers are laid off, 10 per cent among brick layers.

Among non-union workers, unemployment is worse but detailed figures are unavailable, 15-20 per cent seems a reasonable estimate.

TEXTILES

Textile workers are one group of workers who have been hardest hit by the present recession. Between 1965 and 1970 over five thousand have seen their jobs disappear. The shutdown of small factories combined with what industry spokesmen term "seasonal layoffs" push the loss of job figure closer to the eight thousand mark.

The Cosmos Imperial plant in Yarmouth N.S. employs 600 men and women. Its main customer was the Toronto Dunlop plant, manufacturer of industrial goods and belt products. The announcement that Dunlop was closing precipitated an emergency debate in the Nova Scotia legislature. In a prepared statement, the president of Cosmos informed the Government that he doubts very much whether his company can afford to operate the Yarmouth plant if Dunlop closes. Dunlop accounts for over $2 million if its business annually.

Courtaulds Canada Ltd., owned by Imperial Chemical Industries of the U.K., manufacturers of synthetic textiles, employed 2,000 workers at its Cornwall plant. Over seven hundred workers have been laid off since Christmans. Company officials refuse to say how long or how many workers will be permanently laid off.

Unemployment in Cornwall and surrounding districts is at an all time high of 18.3%. The plant is organized by the Textile Workers Union of America, an American based union, which says that it can't do anything about layoffs.

At the La France plant in Woodstock, Ontario, people are being laid off for one or two days a week. They cannot get unemployment insurance unless they are laid off for three or more days in the week, and the wonderful TWUA has no supplementary Benefits Fund and no plans. La France Textiles (Canada) is 99.3% owned by La France Industries of the U.S.

The Unions

Every time you pick up a newspaper, Donald MacDonald, president of the CLC or someone from the Steelworkers, is telling some government commission the obvious: that wage increases are not the real cause of inflation. The CLC has heroically refused to go along with any "Prices and Incomes Commission" and it has also pointed out that it doesn't have the power to commit its members even if it wanted to.

The individual unions themselves, then, have the choice either to go along with the wage restraints or to do something real to halt the growth of unemployment among Canadian workers.

The unions have done neither. They get their representatives, David Lewis and his supporters in the NDP, to "raise the question in the House" which costs nothing, puts Lewis in the papers, and gets the CLC and its member unions off the hook.

But, the biggest and most powerful unions in this country (the "internationals" and close friends like CUPE) and the top leadership of the "workers" party, the NDP, understand the problem very well.

These unions have headquarters and effective control in the U.S. and their primary loyalty has always been there. Many first came to Canada to protect American jobs. Gompers supported U.S. imperialism because it meant a steady stream of raw materials to the U.S. to protect American jobs, and wage levels. And, they're still protecting U.S. jobs today.

Such "international" unions will never move to fight "international" corporations because they see themselves as partners in defending the American way of life. For all the talk of "multi-nationalism" it is quite clear where head office is, and whose troops defend corporate interests in Viet Nam, and whose Marines landed in Santo Domingo etc.

And the AFL-CIO unions, just as they supported the Cold War, have supported these ventures all down the line. Both partners know that the army must be kept ready if conditions at home (nearly full employment) are to be maintained.

All efforts are directed at keeping the home situation under control. And shifting plants from Japan to Canada to Puerto Rico is a simple matter of maximizing profits -- the colonies have the opportunity to bid for the lowest wages.

Japanese tubes?

Thousands of Canadian workers are now without jobs as U.S. and European monopolies move production of electronic components back home.

Canadians have been told that most of these parts are now imported from Japan because 'our' companies cannot compete with low Japanese wage rates. In fact, in 1968 75% of all imported electronic receiver tubes came from the 'low wage' U.S.A. And the American share is increasing. We import more transistors from Australia than from Japan!

In 1966, the General Electric Co., the U.S. owned number one electrical monopoly, shut down its Canadian transistor production in favour of U.S. imports.

In 1967, Phillips closed its electronic tube and transistor production in Toronto and began bringing them in from its home base in the Netherlands. A few months later, the U.S. Westinghouse Co. closed its Hamilton and Whitby tube operations, keeping on a few Whitby workers to package Japanese (Toshiba Co.) tubes in Westinghouse packages.

Each closure was justified by Ottawa's "failure" to protect the tube business and the electronic business generally from "Japan's cut-rate products".

Kennedy Round of International tariff negotiations succeeded in getting us to LOWER OUR TARIFFS (and many of Canada's cuts were without compensating cuts by other countries.

This is how "multi-national" (i.e. imperialist) companies operate: when times are good in the "mother country" profits are maximized by shifting production to low-wage areas and countries.

When times are tough, say, in the U.S., G.E. can shift production back home to provide jobs (and social stability) there. An "intolerable" unemployment rate in the U.S. is just about average here.

Of course, even thought the U.S. predominates, there are significant Japanese electronic imports. However, as one Westinghouse executive put it: "If anyone is going to import tubes from Japan, it's going to be us."

On the Cultural Front....

Last year, the Canada Council chose a U.S. citizen to sit on the Govenor General’s Award Committee. And, Warren Tallman, professor of English at the University of british Columbia, quietly took his place to select the winners for the highest literary award in Canada.

One of the three awards went to Tallman’s protege, George Bowering.

When noted literary figures criticized this choice and pointed out that Tallman has resided in Canada for 14 years but never deigned to take out citizenship; he suggested that they “might as well get used to it -- there are millions of them (landed immigrants) in the country.”

Perhaps the most vehement criticism of Tallman’s appointment came from fellow American, J. Michael Yates of the UBC creative writing department: “It seems ridiculous that one of the judges can be an American. As a Canadian immigrant, I resent Tallman being on the committee. As far as I’m concerned it’s criminal.”

Poet Irving Layton wrote, “Tallman has no interest in Canadian poetry except insofar as it can be considered an extension of the faddish American style.”

In mid-April Robin Mathews along with some Carleton University students picketed the Canada Council’s offices in Ottawa, handing out leaflets that called for Tallman’s removal. The leaflets called Tallman a “cultural imperialist” because his writings treat Canadian literature as part of U.S. literature.

Mathews’ protest sparked a petition from 17 faculty members of York University -- a university where hiring proceedures discriminate against Canadians and where Canadians account for a small minority in most departments. The petition sent to the Canada Council said, “We are appalled by the attack on Warren Tallman and we deplore the methods used by his attackers.”

Poet and English professor Eli Mandel, who organized the petition, has said, “I see no reason at all why three American critics of distinction should not sit on the Governor General’s Committee.”

Two other Canadian poets, however, are criticizing the Committee for ignoring Milton Acorn, the 47-year old carpenter turned poet in Charlottetown. Said Layton, ‘There’s more poetry in the dirty little fingernail of Milton Acorn than there is in all the collected poetry of George Bowering.

The fact that the Canada Council can appoint a U.S. citizen to the Governor General’s Committee and allow one of his proteges an award without looking down the list twice is shocking enough. But remember, last year 60 per cent of the Council’s $17 million in humanities grants went to academics who were graduates of foreign universities. . . . !

That oil squeeze

On March 9 of this year, U.S. President Nixon ordered a drastic cut in oil imports from Canada. This was the first act in a giant charade designed to ‘force’ the Trudeau government into signing a “joint” energy pact and giving away all our natural resources.

The U.S. government officially declared that “although it is now necessary to impose formal controls on the level of imports, it is expected that discussions will continue with Canada looking forward to the conclusion of an agreement permitting freer exchange of energy resources between the two countries.”

The Americans want to conclude this energy pact quickly. Canada has abundant resources, and Canada is judged to be a ‘secure’ colony for investment. Even the U.S. Senate opposition to the import restrictions, led by the ‘liberal’ Senator Kennedy, agrees that “after all, Canada is the natural source of supply for the Northern United States”.

The world oil market is controlled by a monopoly of 7 companies, known as the Seven Sisters: Standard Oil of New Jersey, Royal-Dutch Shell, British Petroleum, Gulf Oil, Texaco, Standard Oil of California, and Socony Mobil Oil. In Canada, three of these control the oil industry: Standard Oil of New Jersey (ESSO), Gulf, and Shell (two are American, one British-Dutch.

In 1961, the Canadian government introduced the National Oil Policy which established a dividing line down the Ottawa River. To the west of this line, Alberta producers supply the oil and to the east, oil is imported from Venezuela. ‘Canadian’ oil producers were not disturbed at being restricted to half the national market. The oil -- and the profits -- are theirs in Canada or in Venezuela.

Thus, the imperialist oil monopolies are not worried by the U.S. import restrictions. After all, Nixon is their boy. Restricting Canadian exports of oil to the U.S. will not cut down their profits: it will merely shift them.

Canadian Minister of Energy Mines and Resources, J.J. Greene, had already welcomed the ‘joint’ energy policy and has denounced it opponents as “petty nationalists”.

They are hesitating now only because there is a large and growing number of Canadians who strongly oppose this ‘joint’ energy sell-out. So, our ‘good neighbour’ plans to bail out the Canadian government by making it look like they were “forced into it”. Trudeau will sign the ‘joint’ energy treaty, shrug his shoulders and complain that he had no choice.

GALLAGHER GAGGED

Local 183 of the Labourers’ International Union of North America has made itself one of the most publicized locals in the Toronto building industry. Most of the credit belongs to one Gerry Gallagher, the president of the Local, who refers to himself as a peasant boy from Ireland and who sees himself as a socialist (NDP) champion of the working class. This account of himself is hotly disputed by the majority of his members.

The latest battle has been an attempt by Gallagher to gag his members. Gallagher proposed a raise in the monthly dues from $5 to $6 a month. Without allowing any discussion on the motion, he declared it passed. The members demanded the right to speak against the motion and a formal count. Gallagher replied with fines and suspensions.

Cosimo Narchi was the first to be ‘tried’. (He had subsequently collected an additional charge for writing a letter to the editor of a local Italian-language newspaper which was held to be a slander against Gallagher and the local.)

The night of the ‘trial’, Narchi and over a hundred strong union members picketed the Local’s offices. Gallagher was scared out of his wits and ordered that the charges be dropped.

What makes this local so tense is the discrimination that goes on. In a membership of over 3,000 , 90% are of Italian descent, the rest are mainly Irish.

Yet, the Italian-Canadians have no true representative among the officers. The only Italian-speaking one, Business manager Giancarlo Steffanini, who has all the airs of a papal nuncio, was told to beat it when he was sent by Gallagher (who speaks no Italian) to get Narchi to come inside for his ‘trial’.

Most members are unable to speak English and none of Gallagher’s “Irish Mafia” has bothered to learn Italian. Union proceedings are in English. “International ” unions are not very popular among the members.

Local 183 has six different contracts, some boasting a fifty-hour week with rates of $3.10 an hour. Gallagher has however, spent most of the past year trying to wreck the Canadian Concrete Forming Union, whose contract provided for a 45-hour week and $3.25 - $4.20 an our.

The ‘show contract’ is the current subway contract where members can earn $400.00 plus a week, (mainly from bonuses). Strangely, one could count on the fingers of one hand the Italians that work there.

Local 183 has a clause in this contract (100% hiring hall clause) which gives it complete control over hiring on subway jobs. Gallagher and company send their friends out while the others struggle in the sewer pits for meager wages. This is NDP-style socialism.

Gallagher is famous for calling wild cats for job safety but they are somehow almost always on subway projects. (Sewers and watermains require tunnelling too).

To show his “concern” for unemployed members, Gallagher recently organized a demonstration in favour of, pressway.

Concrete worker explains :

How to Lose and How to Win

Toronto's 1500 residential concrete workers have lost their strike of this April. The workers struggled valiantly, but the flaws in the leadership proved fatal.

Fortunately, even though the battle is lost, the war goes on! The workers are still together; the Canadian Concrete Workers Union carries on. However, now is the time to sit down and look at the mistakes made, so that we will be able to win in future. If we don't do this, all the vultures hovering over us will be able to tear us apart.

The strike grew out of the February decision of the Ontario Labour Board to ban our previous union, the Canadian Concrete Forming Union No. 1, on a legal technicality. After that, we decided unanimously at a general membership meeting to join up with the Canadian Union of Construction Workers.

This is a new Canadian union formed to unite all construction workers into one industry-wide union. Its President, John Meiorin, is also secretary-treasurer of the Bricklayers, Masons Independent Union of Canada.

Unfortunately, this merger didn't work out. The Concrete workers executive decided to scuttle the merger. A secret meeting was held to establish a new union, the Canadian Concrete Workers Union.

The constitution, according to President Bruno Zanini and Secretary Enzo Ragno, was modelled after those of the "internationals" and, therefore, was terribly undemocratic. The new union was presented to the members as a fait accompli. Opposition to this move was steam-rollered and we were re-signed into the new union.

In March, the contractors began laying off many men, and started cutting wages by up to 50 cents an hour. At a general membership meeting on March 26, it was decided to strike.

The strike began on Monday March 30. It was obvious at the beginning that many were still working -- afraid to be the first to go out, afraid to lose their jobs. A flying squad solved the problem.

The squad, 100-200 strong, would suddenly arrive together at a job site, sweep onto the job and convince the men working to join the strike. By the time the police arrived, the squad and the guys from the job would be on their way out -- the superintendent cursing away in the background.

This flying squad idea should be carefully studied by other workers. During this strike, more jobs were visited by the squad than were picketed, but the only arrests came when a large number of police broke up a small picket line.

After a few days, almost all jobs were closed. Two companies tried to keep going by firing all their workers and getting scabs in from the "international" unions.

"Big John" D'Alimonte, chief concrete organizer for the "internationals", arranged to have scabs sent in from local 183 of the Labourers "International", local 721 of the Ironworkers "International" and local 27 of the Carpenters "International". The squad drove them off the jobs.

This was not surprising, as our union is new. The members have proven time and again their willingness to sacrifice to have their Canadian union. But it was downright negligent not to have attempted to raise money from other workers or in the community.

This is part of Bruno Zanini's "easy win" philosophy. Every day, the contractors were going to sign the contract today, the latest by tomorrow.

There has been continual vaccillation -- now joining up with this union, now with that one; one minute full of fight, the next in panic. This is not the way of the working class, this is the way of the petit bourgeoisie who lacks confidence in the strength of the masses of the workers.

At the end of the first week on strike, a new factor appeared; out of the blue, Bruno Zanini recommended that the Canadian Concrete Workers Union merge with the Canadian Union of General Employees, which is headed by one Patrick Murphy.

CUGE has about 1200 members, mainly among hospital maintenance staff. The members approved this -- mainly because of their strong desire for unity with other Canadian unions -- and because of their ignorance of Murphy's reputation.

The "marriage" (as Murphy called it) was a little strange -- only a month earlier, Murphy had denounced Zanini in print as someone who didn't give a damn for the workers and was interested only in his own pocket.

Murphy claimed that he had $60,000 "available to the concrete

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UAW sits pat

Discrimination at Ford

Keith Simms is a 28-year old black worker who came to Canada two years ago from his native Jamaica. He began working at Ford's Oakville Truck Plant in September, 1968 driving completed units off the line into a parking area. But, he injured his back when he fell from one of the trucks in January, 1969; so the following month he was assigned a job in the assembly line pit area - one of the toughest operations in the plant.

Because of his injury and small stature, Simms had difficulty keeping pace with the line.

On the evening of March 6, foreman Art O'Connor came to see Simms and demand that he keep up with his job: "You better not let any more (missed units) come down, you fucking nigger," he said.

Simms told O'Connor to "fuck off" and was suspended 2 1/2 days for "insubordination" and "using abusive language to a supervisor". The matter has since been investigated by a public Board of Enquiry under the Ontario Human Rights Code, which heard seven fellow workers testify in support of Simms' allegations. Ford has always denied the incident ever took place.

But, for Simms the March 6 incident was but the first of a series in which he was subjected to harrassment and humiliation by the company. One directly involved Ford's Canadian vice-president, Ken Hallsworth. Simms, unwillingly to take this abuse, finally quit in August.

This is a long and complicated case involving three major factors: the blatant and defiant racism of Ford, the reluctance of the government to press the matter (no doubt more careful of their campaign fund sources than of what the human rights legislation provides): and the inactivity of the third party involved, the United Auto Workers. The attitude of the UAW provides an interesting case study of how an American-controlled union ignores the needs of its Canadian membership.

The UAW has managed to establish for itself the image of an organization committed to assist the oppressed minorities in the U.S. Its membership contributes 1 cent a month to fund a fair practice division based in Detroit. All locals are obligated to set up human rights committees and include a non-discrimination clause in their collective agreements.

In Oakville Local 707 left wing activists control the paper, the Human Rights and PAC committees. They pressed Simms' case hard and on at least one occasion the 5,700 members went out on a wildcat in Simms' support.

Dennis McDermott , UAW Canadian Region director was formally advised of the situation and asked to bring the weight of the International to bear on the company. He never replied to this letter. And Walter Reuther failed to reply to a similar one.

When a 707 rep. visited "Solidarity House" in Detroit he discovered that no fair practices personnel had ever visited Canada. Further he was told not to expect help becuase, "we don't know what's going on in Canada's six provinces." Not one cent of the dues collected from Canadian workers for human rights activities has ever been spent in Canada.

This incident is just another manifestation of two interrelated processes: an "International" union's collaboration with American imperialism in which its role is to povide the stability necessary for the smooth functioning of capitalism; and the exploitation of Canadian workers by so-called "International" unions that deprive them of their funds and the autonomy to deal with particularly Canadian problems and needs.

The Simms case has been a radicalizing experience for many 707 members - an experience gained unfortunately throught the humiliation of a union brother.

GRAVE DANGER IN ARCTIC

A massive oil spill in any ocean is a disaster. In the Arctic it could be a catastrophe. If a ship were to go to the bottom chances for the salvage of trapped oil would be slim in such frigid and unknown waters. Clearing up surface crude would present an even more nightmarish prospect than at Cheddabucto Bay. The coagulated oil would insulate against the sun and cut off oxygen to the minute marine life called plankton which is the basic element in the Arctic food chain. Already, bilge water from ships plying the Alaskan coast is affecting its shore line and thousands of sea birds.

Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic is the important issue, and for obvious reasons the United States would like to see the North-West Passage declared international waters. If a giant tanker were to be caught in the ice as the Manhatt was, Canada could have difficulty in making damage claims stick. How could we prosecute pollution laws covering territory that is not ours to command?

The International Court has no pollution statutes upon which to judge our case. It would be reasonable to assume that the wishes of the U.S. would be the ones served. The Court has clearly shown preference for the rights of shipping nations. However were it remotely possible that a ruling would favour Canada, the US has stated it would ignore such a ruling.

From the Canadian viewpoint, the safest and most efficient way to ship northern oil to southern markets is via tank trains capable of delivering more than a million barrels a day at capacity. The Toronto man who suggested it says that it would be no more expensive in the long run and would create permanent jobs for the people. We strongly advise that such an approach be exhaustively investigated.

The Manhattan has already bulled her way through the North-West Passage last winter. Its Captain Steward, a self-confessed amateur, got stuck in the polar no less than five times and had to be helped free by the Canadian icebreaker, Sir John A. Macdonald. Very few sea captains, American or otherwise, have sailed Arctic waters. On its second trip, the Manhattan is under the direction of another man who has never sailed under Arctic conditions. The first voyage ended for the Manhattan with a hole in her hull large enough to drive a truck through. Will the giant tanker loaded to the gunwhales with bunker crude be any luckier against the 1000 year old pack ice? Only Captain Fournier, aboard the Canadian icebreaker St. Laurent. can say

Dunlop workers must keep fighting !

(cont. from p. 1)

These branch plant American unions pay lip service to the ideas of social democracy and the NDP while they actively oppose the Waffle group, anti-imperialist struggle, and any talk of nationalization -- let alone militant action on the part of the Canadian workers.

Despite the phoney internationalism of the American unions, the spirit of true internationalism -- workers fighting together against U.S. imperialism -- is very strong.

The Dunlop workers have received telegrams of support from European workers and an invitation to send a representative to meet with shop stewards from Dunlop-Pirelli plants from all over England. This meeting was arranged by the British Trade Union Congress.

What's more, workers in the Toronto area who face similar shutdowns and layoffs have been rallying around the example of the Dunlop workers. Since March 6, members of the United Electrical workers soon to be laid off by General Electric, unemployed auto workers from Oshawa and Windsor, and ceramics workers from Pilkington Glass have approached them.

The struggle to keep Dunlop open has become a symbol for thousands of Ontario workers. But the fight against shutdowns and layoffs is the fight both against American capital and against the American business unionism which promotes it -- it is part of the fight against U.S. imperialism. And symbolic struggles are not enough

Legal actions, feasibility studies, public sympathy, debates in Parliament, righteous outrage and petitions will not win the Dunlop battle. Only the militancy of the workers; that is, their determination stay in the plant and keep it operating, will lead to victory.

In the history of workers' struggles, mass occupations of factories have been used as successful tools against the boss. In Italy, just a few months ago, the workers took over the Pirelli factory to protest the importation of cheap tires from Pirelli's Spanish subsidiary. They won!

The Dunlop workers can win too. And they will win through their own strength and with the help of other Canadian workers and students and with the support of their brothers in Europe. After the victory, we hope they will carry on the struggle against imperialism by forging a militant, rank and file controlled union -- free of phoney "International" connections.

(cont. from p. 7)

workers". He said the money was coming from the Quebec-based Confederation of National Trade Unions.

When asked about this, Michel Chartrand, President of the Montreal Council and member of the Executive Board of the CNTU, said "that is not true -- there is an embargo within the CNTU on money going from Quebec to Ontario."

It soon became obvious that Murphy was a fraud, that he had no $60,000 -- so Bruno divorced him. Murphy then decided to raid the CCWU.

Murphy's union called a meeting for concrete workers (only 20 came) where he denounced Zanini for "selling workers down the road and of working for the contractors". He thumped his chest about how he stood for "workers power".

However, Murphy publishes the only union newpaper in Canada that runs two-page paid advertisements for the Toronto Stock Exchange. "If I get money from the capitalists, what's the difference?" says Murphy.

He has allied himself with a little band of self-appointed "Marxists" (the Canadian Party of Labour), who specialize in defending "international" unions and American imperialism. He has arranged for his next concrete workers meeting to be guarded by the "international" scab-supplier, "brother D'Alimonte" -- as Murphy calls him. D'Alimonte is well-known among conrete workers as "Il Venduto"(the sell-out).

It is clear that the only way out of this mess for the concrete workers is through the Canadian Union of Construction Workers. This is the kind of union we need -- an industrial Canadian union that can unite all construction workers.

Whatever his faults may be, John Meiorin is widely known as an honest, calm man. These are two qualities badly needed by the concrete workers at the moment.

Bruno Zanini seems to be in favour of joining the CUCW now. This is fine. But IT MUST BE DEFINITE. No more fooling around. We must go ahead. We must join and build the Canadian Union of Construction Workers.

For us, and for all construction workers, it is the only way.

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